Goals and Priorities
Post-Secondary Education

1989 to the year 2000

Alberta Advanced Education
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Department of Advanced Education Mission

The basic purpose of the Department of Advanced Education is to provide the leadership, service and coordination necessary to ensure the efficient development and functioning of an effective system of advanced education responsive to the needs of all Albertans.

Goals and Priorities

A. To provide leadership to Alberta's post-secondary system.

1. Advocate for post-secondary education and enhance accountability for the use of public funds.

2. Pro-actively address the approval of institutional mandates and development plans; coordinate and rationalize programming.

3. Work with stakeholders to develop and communicate Advanced Education goals and priorities.

4. Engage in information sharing and joint planning activities with other departments and institutions; coordinate post-secondary education program initiatives across government.

5. Encourage discussion with the federal government to ensure federal initiatives are consistent with provincial priorities.

B. To enable qualified and motivated Albertans to access post-secondary education

1. Examine and consider changes to the Student Finance Board policy and program.

2. Ensure credibility of university transfer programs.

3. Develop policies to enhance access for non-urban students.

4. Develop policies to enhance access to post-secondary education for disadvantaged learners.

5. Initiate planning to meet the anticipated enrolment demand resulting from the echo baby boom.

C. To provide for the allocation and reallocation of resources necessary to maintain and enhance quality programming.

1. Develop a framework which will encourage and support a reduced reliance on provincial government revenues.

2. Revise funding policy for the maintenance and replacement of institutional assets, in particular to foster the technological currency of educational equipment.

3. Develop a revised policy for funding student housing.

4. Work with institutions to address anticipated faculty shortages.

D. To provide a system of post-secondary education that is responsive to the educational, research and training needs and expectations of Albertans.

1. Develop a literacy policy

2. Work with business and industry, institutions and other departments to meet training and retraining manpower needs, recognizing the need to balance public and corporate participation:

   - Ensure that education programs support provincial economic goals and initiatives.

   - Consult with others to identify and evaluate up-coming skilled workforce shortages and develop resolution strategies.

3. Encourage programs which develop general skills such as communication, critical thinking and problem solving.

4. Provide moral and financial support for the basic research role of the universities.

5. Give support to the role of Further Education Councils to mobilize local resources to provide access to non-credit learning.